



Closer to Home

Concept

The Santa Monica Mountains are an example of a Mediterranean biome located adjacent to metropolitan Los Angeles.

Objective

Students will be able to identify where the Santa Monica Mountains exist in relation to their school/home and explain how the location characteristics of these mountains compare to those of other Mediterranean regions.

Method

Have students work in groups to read through their handout and answer the questions on their investigation worksheet.

Materials

- Student Handout
- Student Investigation Worksheet

Duration

Up to one class session

Procedure

1. Ask the students to read the *Closer to Home* handout.
2. Discuss the various characteristics of the Santa Monica Mountains and how they compare to a Mediterranean biome.
3. Ask students to examine the map on the *3–Student Investigation Worksheet* and answer the questions.
4. Have students present their answers.
5. Discuss with the students the location of the Santa Monica Mountains in relation to their own school/home.

Extensions

Map & Compass exercises. Try the following website link:
www.mapping.USGS.gov/education/

Key Words

Aspect	Ecosystem	Elevation
Erosion	Flora	Metropolitan
Nutrient	Proximity	Species